

Message Text

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47

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 FRB-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00

OMB-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 SAM-01 AF-06

ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 /123 W

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FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 604

INFO USDOC WASHDC

DOD WASHDC

US DEPT OF INTERIOR WASHDC

US TREASURY DEPT WASHDC

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PASS STR, AGRICULTURE, LABOR, ITC

H PASS CODEL

FROM AMBASSADOR DENT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: MTN: TPSC 75-18, POSITION PAPER FOR TARIFFS GROUP

MEETING OCTOBER 14, ET. SEQ. 1975

1. I HAVE APPROVED THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING
MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED TO ME BY AMBASSADOR WALKER.

2. BEGIN TEXT

IN REVIEWING THIS POSITION PAPER I STRONGLY RECOMMEND DELETION

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OF THE TERM "HARMONIZATION".

IN MAKING THIS RECOMMENDATION, LET ME STRESS MY CONCURRENCE WITH THE PROPOSITION THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL SEEK A TARIFF-CUTTING HYPOTHESIS PREMISED UPON EQUALITY OF ACCESS--OR, AS THE PAPER PUTS IT, "SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT COMPETITIVE OPPORTUNITIES".

IT IS APPARENT THAT THIS IS THE CLEAR THRUST OF PRIVATE SECTOR AND CONGRESSIONAL ADVISE WE HAVE RECEIVED AND SHOULD THEREFORE GOVERN OUR POSITION ON THE MATTER.

MOREOVER, IN THE UNITED STATES THIS GENERAL CONCEPT HAS COME TO BE KNOWN AS "HARMONIZATION". IN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS' PARLANCE, HOWEVER, THE TERM "HARMONIZATION" HAS A VERY DIFFERENT MEANING. SINCE 1963, WHEN IT WAS FIRST ADVANCED BY THE EC DURING THE KENNEDY ROUND, IT IS THE TERM WHICH HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE COMMUNITY'S PREFERRED TARIFF-CUTTING HYPOTHESIS. THEIR HARMONIZATION HYPOTHESIS, IF ADOPTED, WOULD COMPEL THE U.S. TO REDUCE ITS TARIFFS SUBSTANTIALLY MORE THAN REDUCTIONS BY THE EC IN ITS TARIFFS.

CONSEQUENTLY, WITH THIS BACKGROUND, I RECOMMEND DELETING THE TERM "HARMONIZATION" FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

1. USE OF THE TERM "HARMONIZATION" TO DESCRIBE THE U.S. APPROACH WOULD BE LIKELY TO MISLEAD OTHER DELEGATIONS TO BELIEVE THE UNITED STATES HAS ACCEPTED (WHICH WE HAVE NOT) THE PRINCIPLE OF THE EC'S TARIFF-CUTTING HYPOTHESIS.

2. SINCE THE U.S. DOES NOT NOW HAVE A SPECIFIC HYPOTHESIS TO ADVANCE, USE OF THE TERM "HARMONIZATION" WOULD TEND TO CONFUSE THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN OUR APPROACH AND THE COMMUNITY'S APPROACH.

3. WE SHOULD NOT NOW GIVE A SIGNAL (EVEN IF UNINTENDED) THAT WE ARE ACCEPTING ANY PORTION OF THE EC'S APPROACH WITHOUT GETTING "PAID FOR IT" THROUGH SOME RECIPROCAL CONCESSION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ON THE COMMUNITY'S PART.

4. THE FOREGOING ARGUMENTS ARE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN THE CURRENT TACTICAL SITUATION WHERE WE ARE AT IMPASSE WITH THE COMMUNITY OVER AGRICULTURAL ISSUES.

IN LIEU OF THE TERM "HARMONIZATION" I PROPOSE INSERTION OF THE

TERM "EQUAL ACCESS". THUS, AT THE POINTS ON PAGES 1 AND 3
WHERE THE TERM IS USED, PHRASEOLOGY AS MODIFIED WOULD READ:
"... THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL ACCESS IN DUTY RATES".

END TEXT WALKER

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Message Attributes

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